

## A Message from the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Technology is an essential part of education. The world marketplace of ideas and commerce is changing rapidly in its applications of technology, and the technological skills of our students must rise to the challenge. To compete in the twenty first century, students must be exceedingly proficient in the use of information technology.

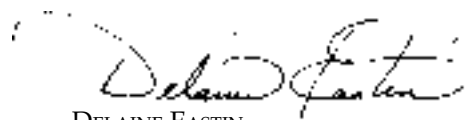
Technology is everywhere. Every sector of our economy—manufacturing, agriculture, communications, services, education, government—is expanding technologically. The important question facing our schools is how well they are able to prepare students for this reality.

Technology can be the key to students' success in school and future endeavors. However, making it so requires access to high-quality resources and training to use those resources effectively in teaching and learning. Planning is fundamental to the appropriate use of technology, as is the successful implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the plans created.

This guide is designed to help every school district use technology effectively by developing a comprehensive technology plan that addresses curriculum; professional development; infrastructure, hardware, technical support, and software; funding and budgeting; and monitoring and evaluation.

A school district's high-quality comprehensive technology plan must be the product of thoughtful consideration. Ideas and suggestions need to be gathered from all segments of the school community: faculty, staff, parents, guardians, students, and other stakeholders. The planning process needs to be a shared activity involving not only schools and school districts but also the broader community.

We invite and encourage the use of this guide in a comprehensive planning process for technology in every district.



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State Superintendent of Public Instruction



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